(b) Government have provided necessary facilities and made appropriate banking immigration customs, security and infrastructural arrangements for the conduct of border trade.

(c) and (d) A system of Border Travel Pass has been introduced to provide overland travel facilities for traders only, following issuance of a Notification on 7th April, 1995. This allows traders from both sides to travel from 1—7 days into each other's countries. Our traders can go up to Mandalay in Yangon and Myanmarese traders can come up to Guwahati in Assam.

A Memorandum of Understanding by which direct flights by the national carriers of each country between Myanmar and India would be resumed, was signed on 11th July 1995.

"Collect Call" Facility

2139. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to start the facility of "Collect call" in our country;

(b) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the advantages and disadvantages of this facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The "Collect Call" facility is already available in the Department as Reverse Charge Trunk Calls.

(b) Does not arise in view of above.

(c) Advantages

A person is authorised (through issue of a Card of Authority by the Department) to make Trunk Call from any Trunk Public Call Office in the country to a specified Telephone number without prepayment of the charges. The charges for such calls are recovered from the called subscriber instead of from the calling party.

Limitation

These services are specific to limited group users like the press or small business houses for their field staff rather being universally available from all the telephones in the network.

Implementation of Afforestation Programme to increase Forest Cover in Bihar

2140. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing or propose to implement any massive programme of afforestation to increase the forest cover in the State of Bihar;

(b) if so, what arc the details thereof;

(c) whether any afforestation targets were fixed for the State during the Eight Five Year Plan period;

(d) if so, what progress has so far been made by the State to achieve the targets; and

(e) the details of the role being played by the State Government of Bihar in increasing the forest cover in the State?

THE MfNISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Under 20 Point Programme, afforestation and tree planting activities are carried out in all States4JTs, including Bihar, under various Central and State Plan Schemes, as well as Externally aided projects.

The State-wise targets for afforestation- tree planting activities under the 20 Point Programme arc fixed on an annual basis keeping in view the financial allocations in Central and State Plans. An illustrative list of schemes under which these ac-

tivities are taken up is givers in the statement *(See* below).

(c) to (e) The targets and achievemnts in respect of afforestation and tree plant-ing activities for Bihar during the Eighth Five Year Plan (from 1992-93 to 1994-95) and targets for the year 1995-96 are given below:—

(Area in hectares; (Seedlings in lakhs)

Year	Taruet		Achievement	
	Seedling Distribution for Plantation on Private Lands	Area Coverage of Public Lands including forest lands	Seedling Distribution for Plantation on Private Lands	Area Coverage of Public Lands including forest lands
1992-95	2100	148000	402.42	71426.39
1995-96	825	55000		

Statement

List of Schemes of afforestation/tree planting under 20 points programme

(a) Ministry of Environment & Forest

1. Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects Schemes.
2. Area Oriented Fiielwood and Fooder Projects Scheme.
3. Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants Scheme.
4. Grants-in-Aid to Voluntary Agencies.
5. Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries.
6. Project Tiger.
7. Development of Infrastructure for Protection of forests from Biotic Interference.
8. Association of Schedule Tribes and Rural Poor in the Regeneration of degraded forests.

(b) Ministry of Rural Development

1. Desert Development Programme.
2. Drought Frone Area Programme.
3. Jawahar Rozgar Yojana.
4. Integrated Wastelands Development Projects Schemes

(c) Ministry of Agriculture

1. Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Projects.
2. Integrated Watershed Management in the Catchments of Flood Prone River of Indo-Gangetic basin.

Survey of Cochin-Madural National Highway

2141. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANS-PORT be pleased to state:

(a) when was the deficiency and realignment survey of Cochin-Madurai National Highway began;

(b) the authority which is conducting this survey and how much money has been spent so far on this account;

(c) by when this survey will be over and report will be made available;

(d) whether the estimated cost for realignment has been planned or not;

(e) whether Government would take steps for Seedy completion of realign-ment work of this National Highway in the near future; and

(f) if the answer to Part (e) above be in the negative, what are the other works being undertaken to improve the present National Highway including the ongoing projects, yet to be implemented projects,